

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JUL 28 2009

209546-103448

Amendment in response to Office Action
dated April 28, 2009AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims:

1-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A vehicular interior trim assembly to be positioned proximate an inflatable restraint system-cassette, comprising:

a cassette including

a frame member having

a frame portion formed by a first side member, a second side member, a third side member and a fourth side member, and

an extension portion connected to the frame portion, wherein the extension portion is formed by the fourth side member, wherein the frame portion forms an opening extending through the frame member;

having at least two sides interconnected by a support cross-member arranged within the opening of the frame member; and

a reinforcement material at least partially encapsulated by and suspended by the support at least two sides of said frame member such that the reinforcement material is positioned at a predetermined location when placed in a mold tool.

12. (Currently Amended) The vehicular interior trim assembly cassette of claim 11, wherein said support frame member includes

a cross member connected to the frame portion, wherein the cross member extends across the opening of the frame member and divides the opening to form at least two sub-openings, and

one or more [[a]] spacer lugs supported by the cross-member that position for positioning said reinforcement material at a [[the]] predetermined location relative the frame member within the mold tool.

13. (Currently Amended) The vehicular interior trim assembly cassette of claim 11, wherein [[the]] at least two of the first, second, third and fourth sides are two opposing sides, and wherein the reinforcement material is secured to the two opposite sides of the frame member.

Amendment in response to Office Action
dated April 28, 2009

209546-103448

14. (Currently Amended) An interior trim panel, comprising:

a portion of an instrument panel formed by a layer of material, and
a cassette disposed within the layer of material, the cassette including
a frame member,

a cross-member, wherein the frame member includes having at least two sides
interconnected by the [[a]] cross member, and

a reinforcement material partially encapsulated by and suspended by the at least
two sides of said frame member, wherein the reinforcement material is positioned at a
predetermined location within the layer of material.

15. (Previously Presented) The interior trim panel of claim 14, further comprising

a shear plane located at an intersection of the frame member and the layer of material.

16. (Previously Presented) The interior trim panel of claim 15, wherein the frame member
comprises material having a first mold characteristic and the layer of material has a second mold
characteristic that is at least partially incompatible with the first mold characteristic of the frame
member such that the incompatibility substantially defines the shear plane.

17. (Previously Presented) The interior trim panel of claim 16, wherein the first mold
characteristic and the second mold characteristic are fully incompatible.

18. (Previously Presented) The interior trim panel of claim 14, wherein the frame member and
the layer of material are bondably attached.

19. (Previously Presented) The interior trim panel of claim 15, further comprising
a knife edge on the frame member substantially aligned with the shear plane.

20. (Previously Presented) The interior trim panel of claim 18 wherein the frame member and the
layer of material is are not fully bondably attached and define the shear plane.

Amendment in response to Office Action
dated April 28, 2009

209546-103448

21. (Previously Presented) The interior trim panel of claim 14, further comprising
an outer cassette member for positioning the reinforcement material outside a tear seam
of the trim panel.
22. (Previously Presented) The interior trim panel of claim 14, wherein the cassette further
comprises
at least one spacer lug for positioning the reinforcement material.
23. (Previously Presented) The interior trim panel of claim 14, wherein the frame member
includes
two opposing sides, and wherein the reinforcement material is secured to the two
opposite sides of the frame member.
24. (Currently Amended) An interior trim panel, comprising:
a portion of an instrument panel formed by a layer of material;
a scrim reinforcement material; and
a scrim reinforcement support portion that at least partially encapsulates the scrim
reinforcement material, wherein the layer of material forming the portion of the instrument panel
at least partially encapsulated the scrim reinforcement support portion, wherein the scrim
reinforcement support portion provides
means for partially encapsulating and suspending said reinforcement material to
define a cassette such that said reinforcement material is positioned retaining the scrim
reinforcement material at a predetermined location relative the scrim reinforcement
support portion when the scrim reinforcement material and the scrim reinforcement
support portion are placed in a mold tool and subsequently subjected to forces associated
with a molding operation when the layer of material is deposited upon one or more of the
scrim reinforcement material and the scrim reinforcement support portion.
25. (Currently Amended) The interior trim panel of claim 24, wherein the scrim reinforcement
support portion includes partially encapsulating and suspending means is selected from the group
consisting of a frame member and a spine having ribs.

Amendment in response to Office Action
dated April 28, 2009

209546-103448

26. (Currently Amended) The interior trim panel of claim 24, wherein the scrim reinforcement support portion includes partially encapsulating and suspending means ~~is a frame member comprising~~ at least two sides interconnected by a cross member, and wherein said scrim reinforcement material is partially encapsulated by and suspended by the at least two sides of said frame member.

27. (Currently Amended) The interior trim panel of claim 24, further comprising
a shear plane defined at an interface between the scrim reinforcement support portion ~~partially encapsulating and suspending means~~ and the layer of material.

28. (Currently Amended) The interior trim panel of claim 27, wherein the scrim reinforcement support portion ~~partially encapsulating and suspending means~~ has a first mold characteristic and the layer of material has a second mold characteristic that is incompatible with the first mold characteristic such that the incompatibility therebetween defines the shear plane.

29. (Currently Amended) The interior trim panel of claim 27, further comprising
a knife edge on the scrim reinforcement support portion ~~partially encapsulating and suspending means~~ substantially aligned with the shear plane.

30. (Currently Amended) The interior trim panel of claim 24, further comprising
an outer cassette member for positioning the scrim reinforcement material outside a tear seam of the trim panel.